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Medical Officer of Health

1960

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
THIRTY FIRST DECEMBER
ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND SIXTY

BY

J. LL. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (LOND.)

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

DAY OF MEETING

Second TUESDAY IN EACH month

Chairman:

Councillor A. MORGAN

Members:

Councillor Miss M. George
Councillor R. V. Nelms
Councillor E. A. Bennett
Councillor S. S. Parfitt
Councillor A. H. Maggs, J.P.
Councillor A. S. J. Hillier
Councillor W. J. Cotter
Councillor W. J. Northam
Councillor A. G. Davies
Councillor H. Ward
Councillor Mrs. M. Lewis
Councillor W. I. Jones
Councillor W. J. Williams
Councillor R. G. Owen
Councillor E. Oaten
Councillor Miss E. M. Bath
Councillor G. F. Davies
Councillor W. Lewis
Councillor B. J. W. Codd
Councillor W. Morgan

Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health (*part time*) ..... J. Ll. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., (Lond.)

Senior Public Health Inspector .... G. M. James, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Meat and Other Foods

Public Health Inspector ..... D. T. Evans, M.A.P.H.I. Cert Meat and Other Foods (Comm. July, 1960)

Student Public Health Inspector .. R. G. Jones

Shops and General Purposes Inspector ..... H. R. Gibson

Clerk ..... H. J. Thomas

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
OXFORD STREET,
Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 3241 MOUNTAIN ASH,

January, 1962

To the Chairman and Members of the Mountain Ash Urban District Council

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions of the District, and the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department, together with the vital and other statistics for the year 1960.

I wish to record my thanks to the Members of the Council for the interest they have shown in the Department, to the Clerk of the Council and Chief Officers for their ready co-operation and to Mr. G. M. James, Senior Public Health Inspector and the Staff of the Public Health Department.

Yours sincerely,
J. LL. WILLIAMS,
Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District (in acres)	10,504
Census Population (1951)	31,521
Registrar's estimated population	30,390
Number of inhabitated houses (31st December, 1960)	8,632
Rateable value	£180,170
Sum represented by a penny rate	£670

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	489.
Live birth rate per 1,000 population (crude)	16.09
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	1.84
Stillbirths	20.
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	39.29
Total live and stillbirths	509
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	17
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live birth—Total	34.76
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births—Legitimate	35.41
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births—Illegitimate	——
Neo Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	24.54
Early neo natal mortality rate	20.46
Perinatal mortality rate	58.9
Maternal mortality (including abortion)	3
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	5.89

DEATHS

Deaths that actually occured in the district	295
Local residents who died outside the Area	99
Residents of other districts who died in the Mountain Ash Area	5
Corrected number of deaths	389

Three hundred and eighty nine deaths occurred among local residents giving a death rate of 15.49 per 1,000.

Death rate for 1959	14.03
Death rate for England Wales for 1960 per 1,000 (crude)	11.5
For Glamorgan (Administrative County)	14.02
For Urban Districts	14.22
For Rural Districts	13.59

INFANT MORTALITY AND NEO-MORTALITY, 1960

Source	INFANT MORTALITY		NEO NATAL MORTALITY	
	Deaths under one year	Rate per 1,000 live births	Deaths under four weeks	Rate per 1,000 live births
England and Wales	16,961	21.7	—	15.6
Glamorgan County	367	29.49	267	21.45
Urban Districts	269	30.68	196	22.35
Rural Districts	98	26.64	71	19.30
Mountain Ash	17	34.76	12	24.54
Some larger Glamorgan Districts :				
Aberdare	24	40.40	18	30.30
Barry	15	18.66	13	16.17
Bridgend	4	14.18	4	14.18
Caerphilly	24	33.29	19	26.35
Maesteg.....	7	21.94	4	12.54
Neath Borough	7	14.00	7	14.00
Neath Rural	11	18.80	9	15.38
Pontypridd	22	39.22	13	23.17
Port Talbot	38	36.75	30	29.01
Rhondda Borough	48	31.09	30	19.43

STILL BIRTHS

The number of still-births registered was 20, of which 8 were males and 12 females. The still birth rate per 1,000 registered live and still births being 39.29.

INFANT MORTALITY

The following table shows the Infantile Mortality—Deaths under One Year. Rates per 1,000 Births since 1909.

Year	England Wales	Mountain Ash	Year	England Wales	Mountain Ash
1909	109	119	1941	59	65.0
1910	105	123.4	1942	49	45.7
1911	130	117.1	1943	49	46.4
1912	95	114.8	1944	46	51.9
1913	108	149.2	1945	46	57.0
1914	105	134.1	1946	43	50.0
1915	110	131.2	1947	41	73.0
1916	91	90.4	1948	34	46.0
1917	96	97.6	1949	32	46.0
1918	97	97.4	1950 I.M.	39.8	48.64
1919	89	112.6	N.N.M.	—	29.18
1920	80	90.2	1951 I.M.	29.6	41.74
1921	83	83.2	N.N.M.	18.8	23.59
1922	77	85.3	1952 I.M.	27.6	50.88
1923	69	64.2	N.N.M.	18.9	24.56
1924	75	74.0	1953 I.M.	26.8	24.76
1925	75	88.7	N.N.M.	17.7	17.14
1926	70	69.7	1954 I.M.	25.5	21.23
1927	69	89.5	N.N.M.	17.7	10.62
1928	65	70.9	1955 I.M.	24.9	36.56
1929	74	70.9	N.N.M.	17.3	27.96
1930	60	84.3	1956 I.M.	23.8	25.97
1931	66	72.6	N.N.M.	—	17.32
1932	65	88.3	1957 I.M.	23.0	44.23
1933	64	69.0	N.N.M.	16.5	28.85
1934	59	67.4	1958 I.M.	22.5	47.52
1935	57	87.0	N.N.M.	—	31.68
1936	59	68.1	1959 I.M.	22.0	26.92
1937	58	84.8	N.N.M.	—	26.92
1938	53	45.7	1960 I.M.	21.7	34.76
1939	50	76.9	N.N.M.	15.6	24.54
1940	55	53.0			

(I.M.—Infant Mortality, No. of deaths under 1 year)
(N.N.M.—Neo-Natal Mortality, No. of deaths under 4 weeks)

The following table gives the number of still births per 1,000 live and still-births for the past ten years :

1951	29.9	1956	29.4
1952	27.3	1957	33.4
1953	15.0	1958	28.8
1954	46.5	1959	31.1
1955	29.2	1960	39.29

Table of Infantile Mortality During the Year 1960

Cause of Death	Under 1 day M.	Under 1 day F.	1-7 days M.	1-7 days F.	1-2 wks. M.	1-2 wks. F.	2-3 wks. M.	2-3 wks. F.	3-4 wks. M.	3-4 wks. F.	Over 4 weeks & under 3 mo'ths M.	Over 4 weeks & under 3 mo'ths F.	3-6 mths. M.	3-6 mths. F.	6-9 mths. M.	6-9 mths. F.	9-12 mths. M.	9-12 mths. F.	Totals M.	Totals F.
Prematurity	2	1	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	2
Asphyxia	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Meninges	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1
Congenital Malformations	–	2	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	2	–	1	–	–	–	–	2	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Anaemia	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
TOTALS	3	3	3	1	1	–	–	–	1	–	1	2	–	1	–	–	–	1	9	8

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
All Causes	213	176	389
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	11	—	11
Other Forms	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm—stomach	5	11	16
lung-bronchus	4	1	5
Breast	—	8	8
Uterus	—	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	18	10	28
Leukaemia—aleukaemia	3	—	3
Diabetes	—	4	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	27	47
Coronary disease—angina	50	21	71
Hypertension with heart disease	5	5	10
Other heart disease	13	21	34
Other circulatory diseases	7	14	21
Influenza	1	—	1
Pneumonia	4	4	8
Bronchitis	30	7	37
Other diseases of respiratory system	16	—	16
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	—	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	—	3	3
Congenital malformations	2	5	7
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	16	26	42
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	4	4	8
Suicide	—	1	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—

The following table shows the number of deaths from cancer in the area during the past five years.

	1960			1959			1958			1957			1956		
	M.	F.	Tot.	M.	F.	Tot.	M.	F.	Tot.	M.	F.	Tot.	M.	F.	Tot
Stomach	5	11	16	5	8	13	10	8	18	14	4	18	13	8	21
Lung, Bronchus	4	1	5	10	2	12	7	—	7	7	1	8	9	1	10
Breast	—	8	8	—	4	4	—	2	2	—	6	6	—	2	2
Uterus	—	2	2	—	4	4	—	5	5	—	1	1			2
Other	18	10	28	20	11	31	15	9	24	17	12	29	13	22	35
Totals	27	32	59	35	29	64	32	24	56	38	24	62	35	35	70

LIVE BIRTHS

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Legitimate	237	243	480
Illegitimate	6	3	9
	243	246	489

Birth rate per 1,000 home population being	15.93
1959 birth rate per 1,000 home population was	16.86
The birth rate for England and Wales being (crude)	17.1
The birth rate for Glamorgan (Administrative County)	16.32
The birth rate for Urban Districts being	16.38
The birth rate for Rural Districts being	17.33

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

The number of illegitimate births registered was 9, of which 6 were boys and 3 girls and no deaths occurred amongst these children.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

During the year the following notifications were received :—

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Scarlet Fever	19	12	31
Erysipelas	4	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	8	8
Pneumonia	3	3	6
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	1
Whooping Cough	1	2	3
Measles	1	3	4

The following table shows the incidence of confirmed Infectious Diseases during the past seven years :—

DISEASE	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Scarlet Fever	31	41	84	87	44	52	30
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Measles	4	119	233	207	26	825	6
Pneumonia	6	34	17	13	15	36	21
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	2	1	—	—	3	1
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	3	4	40	13	31	1
Erysipelas	4	6	6	5	6	8	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	1	2	5	8	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	8	3	4	4	3	—	—
Dysentry	—	5	1	5	1	—	—
Opthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

During 1960 no case of Diphtheria was notified in the area.

ANNUAL REPORT OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATION (corrected)

Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected) returned to Registrar General—NIL

Outbreaks

Total Outbreaks—NIL

Single Cases

Total Number of known cases—NIL

ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITAL DURING 1960

DISEASE	NO. OF CASES
Diphtheria (Unconfirmed)	—
Meningoccal Infection (Confirmed and Unconfirmed)	1
Poliomyelitis (Unconfirmed)	—
Mumps	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	8
Enteritis	—
Measles	—
Dysentery	—
Food Poisoning	—
Scarlet Fever	1
Paratyphoid (Unconfirmed)	—
Whooping Cough	—
Pneumonia	1
Glandular Fever	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—
Chickenpox	—

TUBERCULOSIS

No action was taken under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172, which empowers the Council to apply for an Order for the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The number of new cases notified in 1960 was :—

Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	28
Meningitis-	—
Other Forms	3
Total notified during the year	31
Cases of tuberculosis admitted to Sanatoria in 1960	34
Cases of tuberculosis discharged from Sanatoria in 1960	41

The following table gives the age and sex distribution of persons notified as suffering from tuberculosis and of those who have died from the disease :—

Age Periods	NEW CASES NOTIFIED Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Meningitis M.	Meningitis F.	Other Forms M.	Other Forms F.	DEATHS Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Meningitis M.	Meningitis F.	Other Forms M.	Other Forms F.
0 to 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 24	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 44	1	3	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 64	8	4	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	6	4	—	—	1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	17	11	—	—	2	1	11	—	—	—	—	—

The following table shows the incidence of tuberculosis in the district for the past 20 years.

Year	Respiratory	Other Forms	Respiratory	Other Forms
1941	64	14	28	3
1942	53	14	28	4
1943	50	10	30	3
1944	70	16	21	4
1945	63	7	22	4
1946	60	8	22	5
1947	48	5	20	6
1948	49	10	20	2
1949	34	6	18	—
1950	44	7	18	6
1951	54	6	14	1
1952	59	6	16	—
1953	73	5	15	1
1954	52	4	9	—
1955	35	4	10	1
1956	28	4	5	—
1957	28	2	10	—
1958	23	1	3	—
1959	27	3	9	—
1960	28	3	11	—

Laboratory Work

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

Arrangements for the chemical and bacteriological examination of specimens from this area are the same as in previous years.

With the exception of Sputum Outfits (which are obtained from the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic) all other outfits for the collection and transmission of specimens can be obtained from the Public Health Department, Oxford Street, Mountain Ash. Medical Practitioners within the area are aware of this fact.

The following table shows the nature and number of specimens sent for examinations and also the results :—

Disease Suspected	Number of Specimens	Results Postitive	Results Negative
Diphtheria :—			
Throat	3	—	3

WATER

The Mountain Ash Urban District Council has its own water undertaking, and its works and mains supplies are under the control of the Council's Engineer and Surveyor. There are three main sources of supply, two of which are in the Council's own own area and the third at Penderyn in Brecknockshire. There are three impounding and storage reservoirs ; at Penderyn, Clydach and Perthcelyn, and five service reservoirs ; at Darranlas, Buarth-y-Capel, Gilfach Rhyd, Cefnpennar, Abercynon and Penrhiwceiber High Service.

The respective capacities of the reservoirs are :—

Penderyn	132,000,000 gallons
Clydach	11,300,000 gallons
Darranlas	2,200,000 gallons
Perthcelyn	31,572,000 gallons
Buarth-y-Capel	500,000 gallons
Abercynon No. 2 and 3	400,000 gallons
Penrhiwceiber High Service	500,000 gallons
Gilfach Rhyd No. 1	100,000 gallons
Cefnpennar	22,700 gallons

The sources of all supplies are upland surface and the water tends to be soft in character. Only one supply, that from Darranlas is filtered, and this by slow sand filtration. All supplies are chlorinated and treated with chalk.

Reference to turbidity of the water in the Abercynon area (Glancynon) mains was made in the Annual Report of 1959, some of the mains were relaid and was continued the policy of the Council to replace mains as and when necessary.

As stated in previous reports the programme of the provision of modern treatment plant for the water supplies was held in abeyance because of the possible impending regrouping of water undertakings.

SWIMMING POOLS AND PADDLING POOLS

Within the Urban Area there is one Open Air Swimming Pool at Gwernifor Grounds, Mountain Ash, and two Paddling Pools, one at the Welfare Grounds, Abercynon, and one at Lee Gardens, Penrhiwceiber. All these are maintained by the Council, and all are supplied with mains water.

The Gwernifor Swimming Pool has a water area of 3,600 sq. ft. and a capacity of 150,000 gallons. Whilst in use there is a continuous flow of water through a pressure filtration plant, with coagulation and chorination. The rate of change of water in the baths is once in every six hours.

The Paddling Pools also have a continuous flow through a Bell Bros. Purification Plant. The water undergoes chlorination by gaseous chlorine injection, and alum and soda ash treatment for coagulation and precipitation. The capacities of the Pools are as under :—

Abercynon Pool	60,000 gallons
Penrhiwceiber Pool-.....	40,000 gallons

Water Sampling

Routine sampling of the water supplies at the reservoirs and at points of distribution to the consumer is carried out by the Public Health Department. The samples are taken at fortnightly intervals and oftener as the occasion arises.

During the months in which the Swimming Pool and Paddling Pools are open for the use of the public, the water at these pools was sampled.

Summaries of the bacteriological and chemical analyses of samples taken at the public water supplies and baths are give in the following tables.

Source of Supply		Results of Bacteriological Tests				Results of Chemical Tests			
		Number Samples	Satis-factory	Unsat-isf'tory	% Satis.	No. of Samples	Satis-factory	Unsat-isf'tory	% Satisf'ry
Penderyn Reservoir	Raw	22	—	—	—	22	—	—	—
	Treated	55	39	16	70.9%	55	29	26	52.7%
Perthcelyn Reservoir	Raw	22	—	—	—	22	—	—	—
	Treated	30	21	9	70%	30	26	4	86.6%
Clydach Reservoir	Raw	22	—	—	—	22	—	—	—
	Treated	23	18	5	78.2%	23	23	—	100%
Darranlas Reservoir	Raw	23	—	—	—	23	—	—	—
	Treated	25	20	5	80%	25	24	1	96%

SOURCE	RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS				RESULTS OF CHEMICAL TESTS			
	Number Samples	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory	% Satis.	Number Samples	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory	% Satis.
Gwernifor Swimming Pool	10	8	2	80%	10	10	—	100%
Penrhiwceiber Paddling Pool	3	1	2	33.3%	3	2	1	66.6%
Abercynon Paddling Pool	5	2	3	40%	5	4	1	80%

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Once again tables and graphs are included showing the results of samples analysed, which are taken during the year from the various atmospheric pollution measuring stations in the Mountain Ash and Aberdare District!. Copies of these results are submitted to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the National Coal Board as well as to the two Councils concerned.

Reference may be made to previous Annual Reports if comparisons are desired, but great caution should be employed in the interpretation of these results.

As a rough guide to the approximate standard of atmospheric pollution to be expected in the varying types of areas throughout the country, the following table is included :—

		TOTAL SOLIDS
(*a*)	CLEAN	less than 12.5 tons per sq. mile
(*b*)	FAIRLY CLEAN	12.5-37.5 tons per sq. mile..
(*c*)	DIRTY	37.5-62.5 tons per sq. mile
(*d*)	VERY DIRTY	More than 62.5 tons per sq. mil

CLEAN RURAL ATMOSPHERE :—
0.25 mg. of SO_3 per 100 sq. cm. per day.

HEAVILY POLLUTED INDUSTRIAL ATMOSPHERE :—
5.0 mg. of SO_3 per 100 sq. cm. per day.

MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

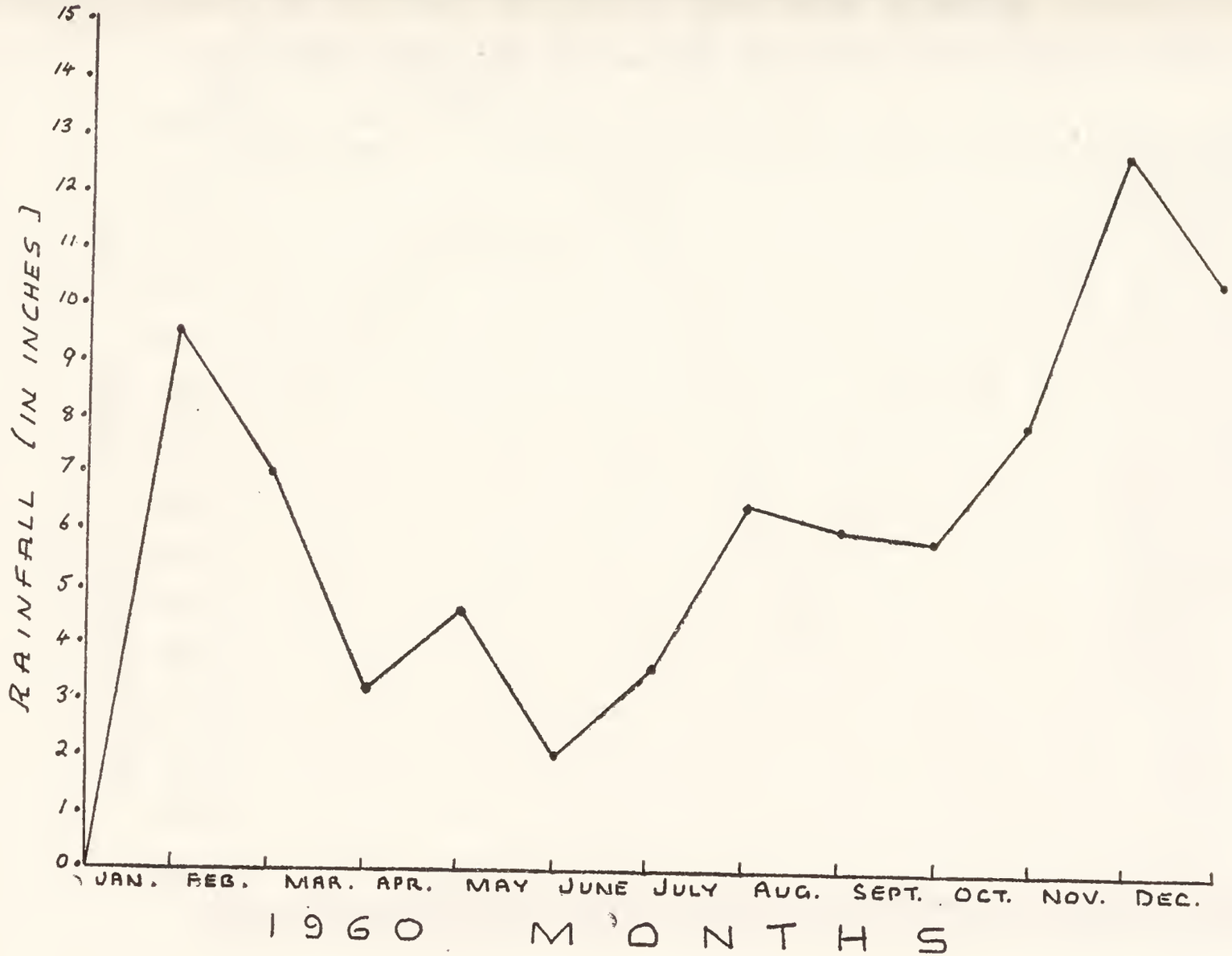
Below is a table of the results of analysis of samples of deposited matter collected from sites in the Mountain Ash and Abrdare areas. The figures denote estimated total solids in tons per square mile

Collecting Point	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Hibernian Club, Mountain Ash	35.34	23.95	15.20	25.03	20.71	19.60	22.48	26.50	32.54	34.43	56.06	37.00
Trawscoed, Aberdare Road, Mountain Ash ..	37.08	28.86	16.28	31.98	31.21	32.81	36.22	37.21	41.49	33.46	50.88	44.66
Workmen's Hall, Ynysybwl	20.87	14.43	14.09	15.04	11.85	10.40	11.74	10.64	12.15	16.98	34.37	23.39
Middle Duffryn, Mountain Ash	127.66	93.03	60.84	78.73	44.80	123.30	225.29	122.30	128.53	50.94	210.62	189.18
Aberdare & Dist Co-op (Central)	26.04	17.68	33.56	16.91	10.27	11.44	11.57	12.51	14.90	20.84	43.43	17.49
Aman School, Godreaman	27.79	15.10	17.15	19.74	10.61	13.32	11.20	11.45	16.44	17.99	54.09	17.52
Parry's Bakery, Abercwmboi	39.30	28.56	28.05	32.21	22.75	10.36	22.64	24.91	20.18	29.53	44.44	32.06
Duffryn Row, Cwmbach	38.29	28.18	15.92	27.84	17.74	25.92	19.36	34.67	22.44	21.69	72.55	30.75

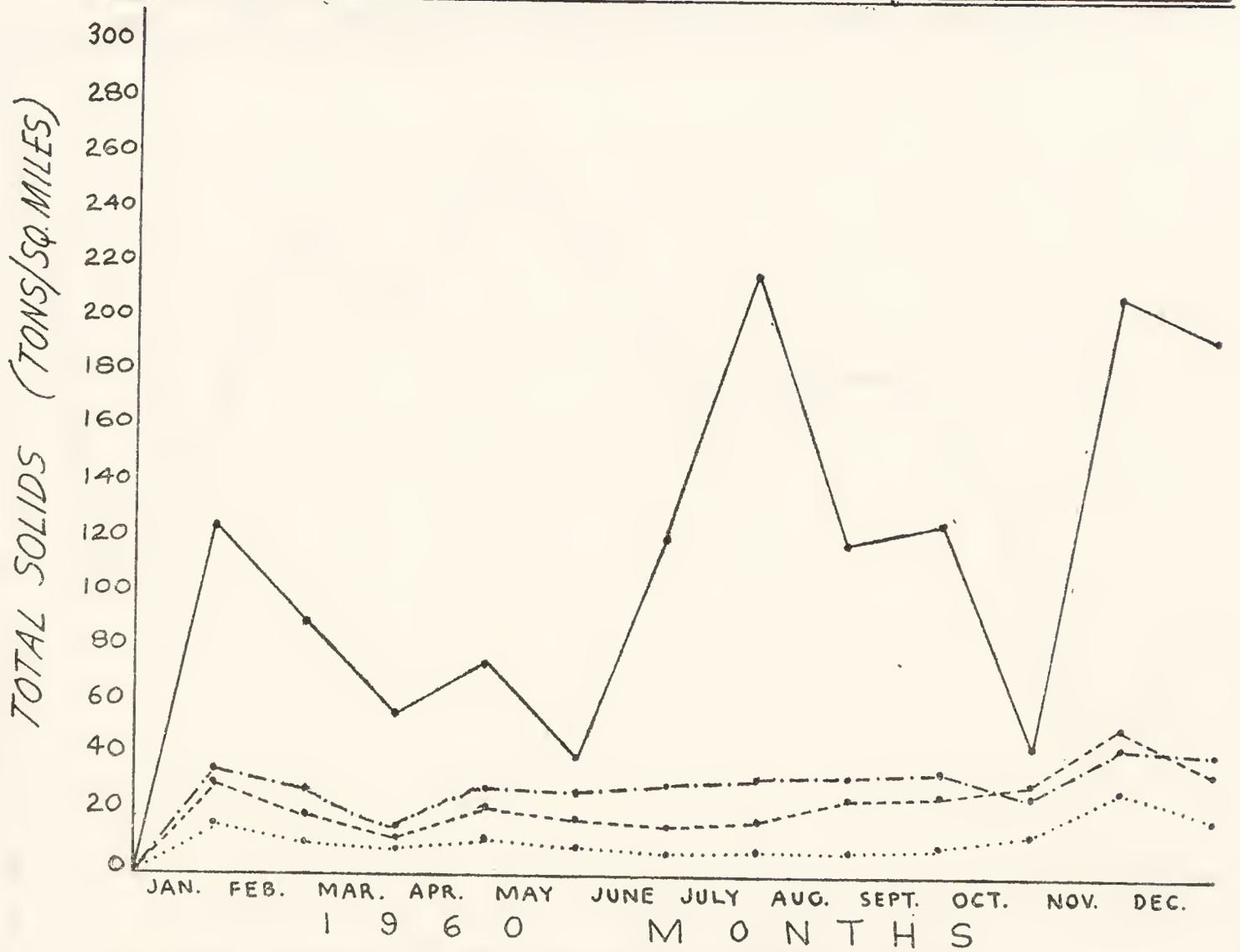
Mg. of SO3/day collected by 100 sq. cm. of Batch A PbO2 (Louvered cover) 23–24

Collecting Point	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average
Hibernian Club, Mountain Ash ..	2.46	2.16	3.00	1.89	1.31	0.93	0.88	0.82	1.47	1.90	2.23	2.96	1.83
Trawscoed, Aberdare Rd., Mtn. Ash..	1.12	0.96	1.28	0.85	0.64	0.47	0.36	0.34	0.64	0.83	0.80	0.95	0.77
Workmen's Hall, Ynysybwl	1.28	1.13	1.22	0.97	0.64	0.40	0.30	0.29	0.51	0.75	0.97	1.04	0.79
Middle Duffryn, Mountain Ash ..	1.13	0.86	1.02	1.16	0.67	1.06	1.43	0.72	0.68	0.54	1.42	1.17	0.99
Aberdare & Dist. Co-op (Central) ..	2.21	1.66	1.85	1.16	0.87	0.68	0.41	0.61	0.79	1.93	2.39	2.02	1.38
Aman School, Godreaman	1.26	0.94	1.80	0.68	0.80	0.50	0.24	0.34	0.82	0.98	0.65	0.95	0.84
Parry's Bakery, Abercwmboi	1.50	1.39	1.57	1.17	0.78	0.73	0.85	0.54	0.78	1.36	1.02	1.92	1.13
Duffryn Row, Cwmbach	1.09	1.07	0.89	0.82	0.59	0.45	0 41	0.25	0.36	0 48	0 94	1.01	0.70

THE MEASURING STATIONS DURING 1960



GRAPH ILLUSTRATING TOTAL SOLIDS DEPOSITED DURING 1960



No. 1 HIBERNIAN CLUB - - - - -
No. 2 TRAWSCOED, ABERDARE RD. - - - - -
No. 3 WORKMENS HALL, YNYSYBWL .....
No. 4 MIDDLE DYFFRYN ———

RIVER POLLUTION

Generally speaking the river continues to be mainly clean and fish life is maintained throughout the whole of its length. There are, however, occasions when it becomes dirty and this is partly caused by the deficiencies in operation of the Deep Duffryn and Penrikyber Colliery Washeries.

The river is kept under constant observation and all possible sources of pollution are being investigated.

Food Hygiene

(1 Number of Food Premises in the area :

Grocery and Provision Dealers	64
General Dealers	103
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	23
Fishmongers	1
Refreshments Dealers and Confectioners	14
Butchers	28
Fish Fryers	18
Confectionery only	3
Bakeries	4
Licensed Premises	33
Mineral Water Manufacturers	1
Wholesale Grocers	1
Wholesale Confectioners	1
Canteens—Colliery	5
Schools	6
Factories	6

(2) Number of Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :—

Manufacture and Sale of Ice-Cream	7
Sale of Ice-Cream	109
Fried Fish and Chipped Potatoes	18
Butchers' Smalls	15

11 Dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

(3) Visits and inspections of food premises were made during the year. Whilst the standard of handling, preparing, displaying and serving of food is generally good, the human element still remains . The public could be of great assistance by being more critical of slipshod, slovenly or unhygienic methods of handling and serving food.

(4) Disposal of Condemned Food—burial in the Concil's Refuse Tip. All tins are pierced before burial.

(5) No special examination of food other than that which occurred in the normal routine work and is included in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

(6) The Ice-Cream Regulations

The majority of Ice-Cream sold in the area is prepacked and this, in the most part, is manufactured by the large Ice-Cream manufacturing firms. The loose Ice-Cream is sold generally in the cafes and from mobile vehicles.

The registered premises have been visited and inspections made to ascertain the storage conditions for the sale of Ice-Cream are being observed by the vendors. All moblic vehicles were also kept under observation.

Qualitative tests are made by the Glamorgan County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

As was written in the 1959 Annual Report a Shops and General Purposes Inspector was appointed by the Authority. All classes of shops have been constantly kept under surveillance to ascertain that the Closing Hours applicable to the various trades are being observed. This entails not only week day visits but also Sunday visits. It has been noted that the shopkeepers are now generally " toeing the line " to the Closing Hours. The main street traders generally, were not in the past, the offenders in the non-observation of the hours of closing but the parlour shops and " off main street " traders, were the offenders. This position has now greatly improved.

Below is a classification of the shops in the area other than those included in the section of food hygiene.

Corn and Seed Merchants	4
Chemists	10
Drapers	36
Electrical Dealers	4
Furniture and Hardware Dealers	11
Hairdressers	19
Ironmongers	8
Jewellers	4
Boot and Shoe Dealers and Repairers	19
Laundry and Dry Cleaners	6
Motor and Cycle Dealers	6
Musical Dealers	2
Newsagents	15
Outfitters	7
Photographers	2
Decorators	3
Opticians	5
Oil Merchants	1
Toys and Leather Goods	3

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

I give below a statement showing the number of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers in the Mountain Ash Urban Area during the year ended 31st December, 1960 :—

SAMPLE	No. taken
Almonds (ground)	3
Aspirins	4
Baby Food	1
Baking Powder	5
Bicarbonate of Soda	3
Borax	1
Butter	3
Cake Sponge Pastry Mix etc.	13
Camphorated Oil	1
Chocolate Spread	1
Coffee and Chicory	9
Condensed Milk	1
Cough Mixture	1
Cream	4
Curry Powder	1
Desiccated Coconut	4
Dessert Powder	6
Dripping	1
Fish (Canned)	3
Fish (Frozen)	2
Fish Paste	1
Flavouring	2
Flour	8
Fruit (Canned)	5
Fruit (Dried)	5
Fruit Juice	1
Glace Cherries	2
Gravy Browning	2
Ice Cream	5
Jam	3
Lard	2
Margarine	1
Marzipan	1
Meat Paste	3
Meat Products (Canned)	5
Milk	4
Mincemeat	3
Mustard	2
Orange & Lemon Curd	3
Peel (mixed)	3
Pepper	3
Rice	3
Sago	1
Salad Cream	2
Salt	1
Sauces	5
Semolina	1
Soft Drinks	7
Soup (Canned)	1
Spices	7
Stuffing	3
Suet	3
Sugar	1
Sweets	4
Table Jelly	8
Tapioca	1
Tea	3
Vegetables (Canned)	3
Vinegar	8
Vitamin Tabs. etc.	9
TOTAL	202

Remarks

The label of a sample of Pork Luncheon Meat did not comply with the Labelling of Food Orders, 1953-58. Proceedings were taken against the suppliers resulting in fines of £6.

I am indebted to Dr. W. E. Thomas, County Medical Officer of Health, for supplying me with the above information.

HOUSING

Housing Act, 1957

During the year under review action was taken under the Housing Act, 1957 in respect of individual houses which were found to be unfit and were considered to be not repairable at a reasonable cost. The premises were dealt with by the making of Demolition or Closing Orders.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of 5 houses and Closing Orders in respect of 18 houses. Occupants of 8 of the houses were rehoused by the Local Authority but it has been agreed that the occupants of the other houses will be rehoused on accommodation becoming available.

RENT ACT, 1957

Certificates of Disrepair

1.	Number of Applications for Certificates of Disrepair..	13
2.	Number of Decisions not to issue Certificates.....	1
3.	Number of Decisions to Issue Certificates.....	12
	(*a*) in respect of some but not all defects.....	3
	(*b*) in all respects of all defects.....	3
4.	Number of Undertakings given by Landlord under Para. 5 of First Schedule.....	6
5.	Number of Certificates issued.....	5
6.	Applications by Landlords to Local Authority for Cancellation of Certificates.....	4
7.	Certificates Cancelled.....	3

General Health and Welfare Services of the District

1.—Services provided by the Glamorgan County Council :—

(*a*) Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, School Medical and Health Visiting.
These services are administered by the
Divisional Medical Officer
Headquarters: Divisional Health Offices,
New Clinic Buildings,
Rock Grounds, Aberdare.
Tel. No. : Aberdare 2497

For the residents of Ynysybwl, the services are adminstered by
Divisional Medical Officer
Headequarters: Divisional Health Offices,
Courthouse Street,
Pontypridd
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2275/6

(*b*) Mental Health Services :—
The duly authorised officers for this area are
Mrs. C. Edwards,
15 Mill Street,
Tonyrefail
Tel. No. : Tonyrefail 443
Miss A. Evans,
164 Margam Road,
Port Talbot

(*c*) Ambulance Service :—
The Ambulance Station for this area is situated at
Hawthorne, Pontypridd
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2522

(*d*) Welfare Service
Officers of the Welfare Department are available to offer advice and assistance to those in need on hostel accommodation, the blind and the handicapped.

The local offices for the area are :—

(*a*) Area Office, Llewellyn Street,
Trecynon, ABERDARE
Tel. No. : Aberdare 3018

(*b*) County Offices, Courthouse Street,
PONTYPRIDD
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2275/6

(*e*) CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT :—

The Office of the Children's Department of the County Council is at

33/36 Adam Street, CARDIFF
Tel. No. : Cardiff 31696/7/8

(*f*) REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES :—

This area comes under the Pontypridd District, and the Superintendent's Office is at

Courthouse Street, PONTYPRIDD
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 3132

The local offices are situated at

53 Commercial Street,
MOUNTAIN ASH
Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2192
10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

GLANCYNON POST OFFICE, ABERCYNON

Tuesday : 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.
WORKMEN'S HALL, YNYSYBWL
Tuesday and Friday : 11 a.m. to 12 noon

(*g*) PROBATION OFFICER

The address of the Principal Probation Officer is at

St. Catherine's Chamber,
Mill Street, PONTYPRIDD.
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2157

The local office is

Probation Officer Office, Cardiff Street,
ABERDARE
Tel. No. : Aberdare 2901

2.—Hospital Services provided by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board

Hospital facilities for the area are administered by—

(*a*) The Merthyr and Aberdare Hospital Management Committee :
The office of this Committee is at—
St. Tydfil's Hospital,
Merthyr Tydfil
Tel. No. : Merthyr 3401

(*b*) The Pontypridd and Rhondda Hospital Management Committee : Office at—
Courthouse Street,
Pontypridd
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2646

(*c*) Chest Clinics

Melbourne House, Penrhiwceiber Road, Penrhiwceiber. This Clinic is open on Tuesday and Friday morings (10 a.m to 12 noon) and once monthly for Contact Clinic.
Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2119
Glen View, Courthouse Street, Pontypridd
(Open Monday to Friday : 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Saturday : 9 a.m. to 12 noon
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2204

3.—Services provided by Government Departments

(*a*) Ministry of National Insurance :—
Central Office (Wales) is at—
Cathays Park, Cardiff
Local Offices: Duffryn Road, Mountain Ash
Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2215
Park Buildings, Pontypridd
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 3081

(*b*) Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel :—
The office is situated at the East entrance—
Prudential Buildings,
Cathays Park, Cardiff
Tel. No. : Cardiff 26161

(*c*) National Assistance Board :—

Area Offices: Glanynys, Cwmbach Road,
Aberdare
Tel. No. : Aberdare 2343

The Grange, Tyfica Road,
Pontypridd
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2295

4.—General Practitioner Services :—

This service is provided by the Glamorgan Executive Council of—

47 Park Place, Cardiff
Tel. No. : Cardiff 26216
(*National Health Council*)

5.—National Assistance Act, 1948—Burial of the Dead

Under the provisions of the Act, during the year the cost of burying two persons was accepted by this authority.

J. LL. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health

Summary of Work done by the Public Health Inspector

Number of premises inspected and revisited	1310
Number of Notices served under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936 :—	
Informal	329
Statutory	151
General Repairs—	
Chimneys and fireplaces	60
Roofs	121
Eavesgutters and downpipes	61
External walls	20
Windows and doors	67
Internal walls, partitions and ceilings	65
Floors	23
Internal Staircases	9
Cupboards and skirtings	8
Sculleries and pantries	29
Yard pavements and steps	16
Wash houses and coal houses	3
Boundary and forecourt walls	8
Repairs to water services	6
Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936—	
Number of Notices served	19
Drainage—	
Cleansed, repaired and relaid	62
Drains tested	91
Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936—	
Number of Notices served	58
Sanitary Conveniences—	
General Repairs	62
Waterflushing apparatus repaired or renewed	16
Watercloset pans renewed	35
Infectious Diseases—	
Number of cases visited	36
Disinfection—	
Number of premises disinfected after infectious disease	32
Number of dirty or verminous premises disinfected	30

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The supervision of the retail distribution and sampling of milk for bacteriological examination is undertaken by the Local Authority :—

Number of Distributors in Register	13
Number of Dairies in Area	11
Number of Visits	22

9 samples of sterilised, pasteurised and T.T. pasteurised milk were taken from distributors during delivery during the year and sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff for bacteriological examination. All the samples were found to be satisfactory.

MILK (SPECIAL) DESIGNATION

(Pasteurised and Sterilised milk) REGULATIONS, 1949

11 dealers' Licences authorising the use of the Special Designation " Pasteurised " and 11 Licences for the Secial Designation " Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) " were issued to distributors of milk in this area.

8 dealers' Licences were issued for the sue of the Special Desnation " Sterilised."

3 Supplementary Licences authorising the use of the Special Designation " Pasteurised," Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)" and " Sterilised " were issued to distributors of milk outside the Urban Area.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1960

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960 replace and consolidate with amendments, the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949 to 1954 and the Milk (Sepcial Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953.

The principle changes are :—

(*a*) Dealers' Licences, except for a few kinds which will be granted by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, will be granted by the Food and Drugs Authority for the area within which are the premises at or from which the milk is to be pasteurised sterilised or sold, as the case may be. Dealers' Licences will permit sales outside as well as inside the area of the licensing authority and supplementary licenses are to be discontinued.

(*b*) A dealers' Licence (pre-packed milk) is introduced to permit the sale of all three kinds of specially designated milk where the milk is obtained by the dealer in the container in which it is to be supplied to the consumer, or is pasteurised or sterilised by the dealer.

(*c*) The period of which a dealers' Licence will be granted is extended from one year to five years.

(*d*) A Licence holder is no longer required to allow samples of milk to be taken free of charge.

There are also modifications in the testing of the samples of milk.

The Regulations will come into operation on 1st October, 1960 as far as they relate to producers licences and 1st January, 1961 as far as they relate to dealers licences.

Prior to these Regulations this Authority was responsible for issuing dealers licenses for designated milks sold in the area.

It will be noted from the above alterations in the Regulations that the Authority repsonsible under the 1960 Regulations will be the Food and Drugs Authority for the area, which in the case of Mountain Ash is the Glamorgan County Council.

FOODS CONDEMNED DURING 1960

A total of 16cwts. 2 st. 12lbs. of foodstuffs was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption, voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

	Weight in lbs.
Bacon	38
Ham	40
Cooked Ham	30
Tinned Ham	334
Tinned Meat	239
Tinned Goods	943
Lard	168
Dried Fruit	17
Chocolate	9

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Premises where pet animals are sold must be licensed annually by the Local Authority.

One Licence was issued during the year.

RAG FLOCK & OTHER MATERIALS ACT, 1951

One factory in the area is registered as an upholstery premises and was visited periodically to see that the provisions of the above Act were complied with.

CINEMATOGRAPH AND STAGE PLAYS LICENCES

During the year the cinemas and theatres in the area were inspected as regards interior cleanliness, condition of seats, sanitary conveniences and ventilation.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1959

As in previous years two full time Rodent Operatives, under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors, were employed by the Council. Surveys of premises (private and business), river banks, streams and embankments were made by the Operatives, and infestations of rats and mice found were treated, as were premises reported to the Department as being infested. There is quite good co-operation between the public and the Rodent service, and such co-operation is essential if the work of rodent disinfestation is to be carried out successfully.

The policy of the Council of the free treatment of private premises and a charge for treatment of business premises was continued as previously, despite the fact that there is no direct subsidy from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. For all surface infestations warfarin poison was used.

As can be seen from the following summary there were a large number of premises (private, business, streams, rivers etc.) treated, rats and mice destroyed. The problem of rodent control will be a necessary function of great importance to the community. Much destruction can be done to foods and the health of the populace can be affected by rodents. This is true of rats and mice. The unfortunate and fatal case of Weil's Disease, which occurred during August of this year, bears witness to the great necessity

for the control of rodents. The Council, by the employemnt of Operatives, are aware of the danger brought by rats and mice, and taking precaustions therefor, but the public also have a duty in reporting the presence of rodents to the Department so that treatments may be undertaken promptly, and to case the practise of indiscriminate tipping of refuse and rubbish. Further it would help in the control of rodents and fly infestations if household refuse was stored for collection in covered containers.

A summary of the treatment of surface infestations are as under :

	Rats	*Mice*
Number of dwelling houses treated	600	163
Number of business premises treated	14	3
Number of schools and school kitchens treated	8	7
Number of culverts treated	3	—
Number of back lanes treated	3	—
Number of embankments treated	18	—
Number of sections of river embankments treated	15	—
Number of piggeries treated	1	—
Number of watercourses treated	25	—
Number of refuse tips treated	12	—
Number of sewage beds treated	5	—

SEWER TREATMENTS

The maintenance treatment of the sewerage system in the Urban Area was pursued during the year. A first treatment was done in which 673 sewer manholes were baited. A second treatment was carried out during the year but in this treatment all manholes were not baited, only those manholes on the system which from information obtained over years of sewer treatment, were likely to be badly infested.

Between the first and second maintencane treatments, a treatment of the sewers in the Phillip Street area, where the fatal case of Weil's disease occurred, was carried out. This treatment showed only a minor infestation.

As was the case with surface infestations the poison used was Warfarin. The warfarin poison bait used in the sewers was a ready prepared bait with a damp inhibitor giving it a longer effective life in the damp conditions of the sewers.

The Council's Rodent Operatives were assisted by men from the Engineer and Surveyor's Department in the carrying out of this work.

REFUSE DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION

The collection and disposal of household refuse is carried out by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department. The disposal is by tipping, but the finding of suitable tipping sites is becoming a problem. The Council, in an effort to overcome the problem, is considering other methods of disposal amongst which is pulverisation and incineration, and serious consideration is being given to one or other of these two methods. Further with the object of the more hygienic storage of refuse at households, and the cleaner collection, covered bins instead of the unhygienic open containers is being given serious consideration.

FACTORIES

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
(1) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities.....	35	16	—	—
(2) Factories not included above in which section 7 is enforced by the Authority....	50	26	1	—
(3) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the the Local Authority (excluding out-workers Premises.....	13	9	—	—
TOTALS	98	51	1	—

Cases in which defects were found :—

	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness.....	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding.....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature.....	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation.....	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors....	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences				
(*a*) Insufficient.....	—	—	—	—
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective..	1	1	—	—
(*c*) Not separate for sexes...	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (Not relating to Outwork).....	—	—	—	—
TOTALS.....	1	1	—	—

Number of Outworkers..... 4

G. M. JAMES

Senior Public Health Inspector